

**Child & Adult Care Food Program**

**At-Risk Fact Sheet**

## July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

## *Child Nutrition Programs*

# *Finance & Support Services*

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Community-based programs and school districts that offer enrichment activities for at-risk children and teenagers, after the regular school day ends, can provide free snacks through Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) during the school year. Participant eligibility is for students 18 years or younger at the start of the school year.

What is the CACFP?

CACFP is a federally funded nutrition assistance program that provides healthy meals and snacks to 2.5 million young children each day in day care settings. This includes child care, family day care, afterschool programs and emergency shelters.

Who can Sponsor the Program?

The At-Risk Afterschool Meals program is available to public entities, including school districts, private non-profit organizations, and for-profit child care centers that are already participating in the CACFP.

Program Eligibility

To be eligible to participate in the at-risk afterschool meals component of CACFP either as a school district or through a local sponsoring organization, an afterschool program must:

* Be organized primarily to provide care for children after school or on the weekends, holidays, or school vacations during the regular school year;
* Provide organized regularly scheduled educational or enrichment activities (i.e., in a structured and supervised environment);
* If in a school it is open to all (athletic teams and scholastic clubs that limit membership based on ability or other requirements are not eligible)
* Free meals to children
* Be located in an eligible area [7 CFR §226.2; 7 CFR §226.17a(b)].

Eligible area means that the site is located in the attendance area of a public school (an elementary, middle, or high school) where at least 50 percent of the students are eligible for free or reduced price meals under the NSLP.

Area eligibility determinations must be based on the total number of children approved for free and reduced-price school meals for the preceding October. A site’s area eligibility determination made under CACFP is valid for 5 years [7 CFR § 226.17a(i)(3)].

How Does the Program Work?  
The Alaska Department of Education reimburses approved sponsors for serving snacks and meals that meet federal nutrition guidelines. Up to one snack and/or supper must be served during the school year (after the school day has ended), except on weekends and holidays, when a different meal may be served at any time of the day. All institutions participating in the at-risk afterschool care component of CACFP are eligible to claim reimbursement at the free rate for up to one snack and one meal served to each eligible participant per day during the school year (July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022 reimbursement rates are: Snack/ $1.63, Supper or Lunch / $5.94, Breakfast / $3.15).

This program has recordkeeping requirements, such as maintaining a daily sign-in sheet, recording and reporting the total number of meals and snacks served each day, keeping a menu and recipes showing that the meals and snacks served meet the USDA requirements, and maintaining a non-profit food service.

Where can you get more information?

To learn more about the At-Risk Afterschool Meals program in the CACFP, read the [USDA At-Risk Afterschool Meals Handbook](https://education.alaska.gov/cnp/cacfp1) on the DEED CACFP Resources page of the Child Nutrition Program website. You may also contact: Ann-Marie Martin at (907) 465-8711 or email [Ann-Marie Martin](mailto:annmarie.martin@alaska.gov).

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1400 Independence Avenue, SW   
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or

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